

# EDITORIALS

## Knowland's Speech

Although the gathering was non-partisan in purpose and character, Sen. William F. Knowland gave his listeners at a Redondo Beach banquet Wednesday evening a sample of the kind of forceful speaking Californians can expect in the next general election campaign.

The occasion was the gathering of civic leaders in the area to pay tribute to the senator, Congressman Cecil B. King and others who had a part in securing funds for the development of the small boat harbor.

Sen. Knowland kept his remarks non-partisan and even praised his Democratic colleagues in congress who have worked with him on anything of vital interest to this state. Expressing his love for California, the senator reminded his listeners that what is good for any one section of California is good for the rest of the state. He placed the new King harbor in his category of improvements in which all the state benefited.

Speaking encouragingly for our international situation, the candidate for governor asserted that "the strength of America is not in its Army, Navy and Air Force but in the freedom of the people. Human freedom will always win out over tyranny."

Sen. Knowland always impresses his listeners with a degree of sincerity seldom achieved by public speakers. His reputation for forthright speaking, his unrelenting devotion to principle and his confident, virile delivery will be reckoning factors in next year's campaign.

## Bond Future Dims

An indication that school districts may be heading into rougher times in the matter of gaining voter approval of bond issues was contained in a report compiled recently for the California Taxpayers' Assn.

The report showed that Californians approved 500 of the 629 school bond proposals for a total indebtedness of \$496,500,000 while turning down bonds for \$108,000,000 during the past two years.

However, during the 1956-57 fiscal year, voters in nine California counties, including Los Angeles county, turned down more bond proposals, dollar-wise, than they approved.

During that time, school districts in the county turned down 18 of 40 bond proposals totaling \$43,133,000. The previous year 25 bond proposals were approved without a single failure.

"Voters are becoming increasingly aware of the total tax burden they are called upon to assume—not only for schools but for all other governmental purposes," E. Maxwell Benton, schools consultant for the group said.

"If California is to provide adequate funds for its mushrooming school population, school building programs should be planned with care and with a view toward economy," he concluded.

## AFTER HOURS by John Morley

# Zhukov's Abrupt Dismissal Probed

While I was waiting to see Marshal Zhukov in Moscow before his dismissal by the Communist party, one of his aides in the office might have provided the key for his demotion. He said that "since Marshal Zhukov's return to Moscow from his Stalin exile in Odessa, 1946-1953, no political commissars were allowed in the Russian army." We believe this to be the main reason for his dismissal. Here are the background facts as we uncovered them inside Russia recently.

In 1946 Stalin demoted Zhukov by assigning him to an unimportant post in Odessa, at the height of his popularity with the Russian people after the war.

The Russian masses, and the Russian army, hold a hero worship for the man who successfully defended Moscow and Leningrad from the Nazi onslaughts.

The name "Zhukov" was then, and is now, the most popular and respected name in Russia. Stalin respected Zhukov's military genius, but he was afraid that his popularity would lead to a military dictatorship. So he got him out of the limelight by sending him to Odessa and permitting no mention of him in the Soviet press. Zhukov remained in his distant post until Stalin's death in March, 1953.

Most of the Russian people we talked to in different parts of the Soviet union believe that Stalin was murdered by Lavrenti Beria, late director of the Soviet Security police (secret police).

There is one important fact that gives considerable credence to this popular belief. Beria was the first to know of Stalin's death, as he had surrounded the villas and dachas of top Communists with his security police, under the pretense of "protection."

## Still His Trump Face Card



## YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

# A Ring For Her Nose, Too

Dear Ann: I'm a widower with a teenage daughter. I'm thinking seriously of marrying a divorced woman with three children. She insists I sell my little home which is only 11 minutes from work and four blocks from my daughter's school.

She has a place in the country all picked out, and says she MUST have a garden. The country place is too fancy for me and would mean a long ride to and from the office, which I would hate.

My daughter cries whenever I mention the possibility of moving. She wants to graduate with her friends because she's gone all through with them. She's a junior in high school at present.

The lady is a fine housekeeper and attractive. I'm very lonesome for the com-

panionship of a woman. She says she will not marry me unless I see this her way. When I asked her to at least move into my home until the girl graduates she said "absolutely not." Shall I give in? —Yale '37.

If you give in, you may as well get two rings—one for her finger and one for your nose.

Your reasons for not wanting to move into the country are valid and sound. Any woman who can't see this is thinking only of herself.

The fact that she's unwilling to compromise is pretty good evidence that she would be tough to live with. The advice from here is to cast about for someone who is as lonesome for companionship as you are, Dad—and

is willing to prove it by meeting you halfway. (How lonesome can you get?)

Dear Ann: I'm a woman 27 and my husband is 28. We've been married two years and each divorced our mates so we could marry each other. We met in the office and we both thought this was The Great Love Affair of the Century.

My husband is selfish, domineering, inconsiderate, and demanding. He says I am the same. On the plus side, he's a good provider, doesn't smoke, drink, or gamble, and has no interest in other women. He has also kept his promise to walk the dog every night.

He's the world's biggest complainer about trifles which makes me so nervous I could scream. Can you help me? I didn't know of these annoying faults until after we were married—Vergo.

They never do. Honey. This is what is meant when they say love is blind. (It's also deaf, and sometimes rather dumb.)

Your husband may be the world's biggest complainer, but you do pretty well in the complaint department yourself. You two ought to take each other to a marriage counselor and find out what happened to The Great Love Affair of the Century. Your husband may be a bit of a lemon—but you aren't exactly a jamboree yourself.

Dear Ann: I'm a girl 16 with a great big problem. I'm the oldest of five children. The baby is 2. My Mother and Dad like to go out several nights a week and I have to stay at home and take care of the kids.

I don't mind on school nights because I wouldn't be going out anyway, but on Friday and Saturday, I think I should be able to accept a show date or go to a school party if I am asked. My parents say my obligation to the family comes first and that I'm selfish to put my desires for a good time first.

I'm not a wild girl, Ann. I do most of the ironing, and I cook the supper and do the dishes every night. I've always helped Mom with the kids, but I think now that I'm older I am entitled to a social life of my own. Can you help me?—Violet.

I hope so because—you need it. Your Mom and Dad aren't being fair when they expect a 16-year-old girl to be a constant sitter for her young brothers and sisters while they live it up several nights during the week.

Of course you have an obligation to help, but you're doing more than your share. And your mother has an obligation to assist them, not dump them off on her oldest daughter. Show this column to Mother. If she is reasonable, she'll cooperate.

## FROM OUR MAILBOX By Our Readers

# Airport Discussion Grows

Editor, Torrance Herald: I want to comment on the recent article that appeared in The Torrance HERALD in regards to the airport menace (Letters to Editor, Dec. 12).

The airport is not a menace and is not as dangerous as the automobile, trucks, and bicycles that ply the streets of Torrance. I feel 100 per cent safer flying my dangerous airplane than trying to fight my way through city traffic and risking an automobile accident every time I drive. It's terrible—somebody should do something about it.

The statistics have proven that air travel is far safer than the car, bus, and, YES, the bicycle. There are more persons killed and maimed on the bicycle than in any kind of commercial or private airplane travel.

Also, it is a fact that over 80 per cent of the airplanes at (Torrance) are owned by persons who live in Torrance, Redondo, Hermosa, Palos Verdes, San Pedro, and Wilmington areas.

To add it all up, the airport has played a large part in the growth of your community, and is not free-riding as the letter implied.

As I have stated before, the airport is more than paying its way, it has never received any of the makeshift night landings in improvements. Any improvements that have been made at the airport came out of the profits the city has received from the airport.

Also, the city of Torrance has to maintain the airport as an airport, or it reverts to the federal government.

The so-called nuisance of airplanes flying overhead will not diminish because of the loss of one airport. People should realize that airplanes are here to stay.

Which do you want—a source of income slipping through your fingers and converted into a military field barred from public use, or an airport that helps the city of Torrance pay its way and therefore lessening the burden on the already overburdened taxpayer?

DONALD L. MILLER, 614 W. 232nd St. Torrance

Business as Usual Editor, Torrance Herald: At its regular meeting on Dec. 10, I requested the Torrance city council to stop practice flying at the airport on Christmas and New Year's.

The council agreed to ask that my request be posted on the field but did not take any other action.

It does seem to me that we should be entitled to a two-day respite from the airplane noise. After all, we've had this nuisance all day and

every day for the past year and in about two months they expect to put on a night shift.

After the council meeting, two city officials told me that the council could not stop the planes because the land belongs to the federal government and because they have no control over a plane once it is in the air. So, it looks like business as usual on these two days unless the pilots themselves decide to give us a break. From past experience, I do not expect much cooperation.

The important thing, however, was the admission that the city has no control over the airport. This is certainly a potent argument for voting the city out of the airport business. Does it make any sense to you that the city should spend money on land that it does not own, to attract planes over which it has no control? I read in the paper just last week that there was a need for more psychiatrists out here. We can understand that people will do anything for money but the thing becomes puzzling when we know that this operation just about makes expenses.

Of interest at the meeting was a preview of the taxi strip lights that are planned for the makeshift night landing arrangement. They are these little blinkers that are so hard to see on the street barricades. Heard a rumor that they had considered using candles for the job—probably a gross exaggeration.

The airport manager would not permit night operation because of the unsafe lighting, I believe that is why he is being forced out. Now pilots who cannot even find the field in daylight are to be permitted to attempt night landings under conditions that an experienced man considered to be dangerous (inadequate landing lights and temporary blinkers that belong on street barricades).

You may ask your favorite lawyer, but I think this puts the city in an indefensible position. Operation under these conditions means an accident; and an accident under these conditions means a lawsuit.

No one can understand this sudden rush to have night landings at the field when the vote on the bond issue clearly showed that the voter had no desire to increase the activity at the airport.

We in Lomita have no vote on this issue, but please prevent night landings until safe, permanent lights have been installed.

VINCENT LECHNER, 2442 W. 254th St. Lomita

## Tired of Complaints

Editor, Torrance Herald: A letter to our dear, dear taxpayers, Torrance.

Frankly, I'm getting rather tired of complaints about taxes and city employees shirking their duties.

Nowhere else in Southern California will you find as many loyal and conscientious employees as we have in our lovely city.

When I hear complaints about our workers, I let my mind wander back to the days when I worked in industry, and I can recall how very many of the employees would keep their eyes open for the boss so they could jump to their feet and act like they were working when the boss came around.

You know the type I am talking about, and from these kind of people we get complaints, yet.

As a rule, the most complaints usually come from the loudest workers themselves.

As for taxes, we people in Torrance enjoy the most efficient government in the entire Southern California.

Our city manager, Mr. George Stevens, with the cooperation of our very fine city council, has kept our city tax rate to a very low figure, as compared with other cities comparable to us.

Burbank, for instance, has a tax rate of \$1.92 per \$100 assessed valuation. Torrance has a rate of \$1.24 per \$100 assessed valuation.

One major reason for this very low tax rate is that Burbank has 1159 employees and 16.9 square miles while Torrance has 450 employees and 22 square miles.

Burbank has five less square miles to service than does Torrance, yet has nearly three times as many employees as we do.

When you complainers take time out to learn when and where to throw your beer cans and wine bottles, and quit cluttering up our streets and roads, we employees will sympathize with you; but as long as we have to bend our backs and sometimes get on our knees to recover beer cans and wine bottles from under some nice shade trees, we are very unsympathetic.

Shame on you gripers; if you would put the muscles in your arms and your head to work as hard and as fast as you do your jaw muscles, we would have a much nicer and cleaner city in which to live.

Anyway, to all you gripers: I still wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Most Happy New Year.

JONATHAN L. DUNMYER, President, Local 1135 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Torrance

## THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

# Confessions of a Peeping Tom

I confess, I'm the guy who usually gets the answers for the HERALD's "Penny for Your Thoughts" column. That's why I'm sometimes called "Peeping Tom."

Getting the answers for such a column is an interesting process but it comes up with some surprises sometimes too. Like the guy that I asked to "contribute" an opinion to the column. He happily informed me that he'd already contributed enough to charity and marched off.

As the result of talking with a cross-section of Torrance's population on subjects ranging from "Should children be spanked?" to "What does Sputnik mean?" I come up with a few conclusions about the state of the public mind:

1. People aren't very well informed on current issues, but more often confused by the goings-on in Washington and the rest of the world. When it comes to current events—outside of big things like Sputnik—the public does not know too much and cares less.

2. The questions which draw the most comment—so much so that people sometimes call us up on the phone later to tell us their opinion—are those which deal with everyday living. Things like "Should children be spanked?" Do men or women work harder?" "Should a husband help with house-

work?" or "What do you do to think of Elvis Presley?" bring a big response.

3. About half of the people are scared to death to express an opinion on anything that could possibly be construed as controversial. Many of them were worried that they would get fired if they express the wrong opinions on the wrong subjects. They are constantly looking over their shoulders, so to speak.

4. An overwhelming majority of the people will readily talk to a stranger, namely me, and accept me at face value for what I say. I am. A few people will refuse to talk, or ignore me completely. I've gotten the lowdown on a number of personal problems, including the guy who was broke from paying alimony to four wives or the women whose daughter was marrying a no-good cad and what could I do about it? I have also been bitterly denounced for the state of things in the world.

5. Public opinion is something which has to be constantly checked, because some of the responses to questions weren't at all what we expected. We were quite surprised when the column indicated, 4:1, that the public didn't object to having a juvenile hall located here. We were mildly surprised when men we interviewed said women worked harder, while all the women said men worked harder.

6. The thought of having their thoughts printed causes many people to talk in more high-toned language than they would ordinarily use.

7. People generally like to see their names in print, although there are a few who are scared of the idea, often women whose husbands apparently rule the roost.

We make pretense that the column represents a scientific sampling of people of both sexes, but it gives some indication of what's in the mind of the man and woman on the street.

And sometimes people say the darndest things. We give them a penny, but we get a dollar's worth of thoughts.

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